



S/N 09/828451

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|             |                                     |                 |            |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|------------|
| Applicant:  | James G. Skakoon et al.             | Examiner:       | Unknown    |
| Serial No.: | 09/828451                           | Group Art Unit: | 3737       |
| Filed:      | April 06, 2001                      | Docket:         | 723.031US1 |
| Title:      | DEEP ORGAN ACCESS DEVICE AND METHOD |                 |            |

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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MAR 14 2003  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700


In compliance with the duty imposed by 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 *et. seq.*, the enclosed materials are brought to the attention of the Examiner for consideration in connection with the above-identified patent application. Applicants respectfully request that this Information Disclosure Statement be entered and the documents listed on the attached Form 1449 be considered by the Examiner and made of record. Pursuant to the provisions of MPEP 609, Applicants request that a copy of the 1449 form, initialed as being considered by the Examiner, be returned to the Applicants with the next official communication.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b), it is believed that no fee or statement is required with the Information Disclosure Statement. However, if an Office Action on the merits has been mailed, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the required fees to Account No. 19-0743 in order to have this Information Disclosure Statement considered.

The Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' Representative at the below-listed telephone number if there are any questions regarding this communication.

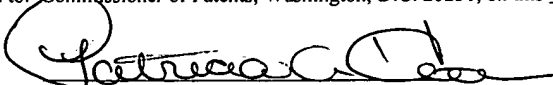
Respectfully submitted,  
JAMES G. SKAKOON ET AL.  
By their Representatives,  
SCHWEGMAN, LUNDBERG, WOESSNER & KLUTH, P.A.  
P.O. Box 2938  
Minneapolis, MN 55402  
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Date March 3, 2003

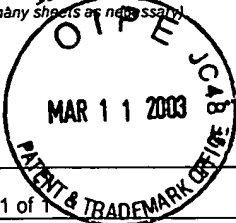
By   
Suneel Arora  
Reg. No. 42,267

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2003.

PATRICIA A. HULTMAN  
Name

  
Signature

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO  
**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**  
(Use as many sheets as necessary)



|                          |                |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| <i>Complete if Known</i> |                |
| Application Number       | 09/828451      |
| Filing Date              | April 6, 2001  |
| First Named Inventor     | Skakoon, James |
| Group Art Unit           | 3737           |
| Examiner Name            | Unknown        |

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Sheet 1 of 1

Attorney Docket No: 723.031US1

**US PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner Initial * | USP Document Number | Publication Date | Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document | Class | Subclass | Filing Date If Appropriate |
|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|---|-------|----------|----------------------------|
|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|---|-------|----------|----------------------------|

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner Initials | Foreign Document No | Publication Date | Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document | Class | Subclass | T <sup>2</sup> |
|-------------------|---------------------|------------------|---|-------|----------|----------------|
| <i>AM</i>         | WO-01/49197 A1      | 07/12/2001       | Samset, Eigil , et al                           | A61B  | 19/00    |                |

**OTHER DOCUMENTS -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner Initials | Cite No <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T <sup>2</sup> |
|-------------------|----------------------|---|----------------|
| <i>AM</i>         |                      |   |                |

EXAMINER

*[Signature]*

DATE CONSIDERED

*7/6/03*